

B) Remarks:

In view of the final rejection and the Examiner's response to arguments, it has become apparent to Applicants that independent method claim 1 and independent apparatus claim 8 must be amended to more clearly point out and define the present invention over the prior art. Accordingly, claims 1 and 8 have been amended to further define the invention by additionally including the forming of a mask pattern by depositing an oil pattern on the surface of the insulating material base film for defining a deposition region for the metal film before the deposition process is initiated, and further removing electrical charge on the insulating base film by plasma-bombarding the insulating material base film prior to take-up winding.

These added inventive features when combined with the other features or elements of claims 1 and 8 provide a novel unobvious combination not taught or suggested by the prior art or any combination thereof.

It is accordingly believed that these amendments overcome the arguments presented for rejection in the final Office Action.

Amended claims 1 and 8 now call for forming a mask pattern by depositing an oil pattern on the surface of insulating material base film for defining a deposition region for the metal film, and for additionally plasma-bombarding the insulating material base film for thereby removing electrical charge on the insulating base film after deposition of the metal film but prior to take-up winding. This specific combination is not taught or suggested by the prior art.

As taught in paragraphs 40 and 50 of the present specification, the claimed method of removing the electrical charge prior to take-up on winding roll 15 provides a stable winding operation of the insulating material film 12 and the insulating material film is thus prevented from shrinking or wrinkling due to the presence of an electrical charge.

Okuda et al. does mention the importance of winding the film substrate without being wrinkled. In this regard, see column 4, lines 23 through 27. However, Okuda et al. fails to recognize the necessity of removing the electrical charge in order to accomplish this.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is now believed that this application has been placed in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration with formal notice of allowance is requested. Should any additional minor amendments be required in order to place the claims in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned Attorney of Record so that such amendments might be accomplished through Examiner's Amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Floyd B. Carothers", written in dark ink.

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